

## Chinese Yo -Yo

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The Chinese Yo-Yo is a toy from China consisting of two equally-sized discs connected by a long axle. The Chinese yo-yo is kept spinning on a string tied to two sticks at its ends. Each stick is held in one hand. It is used today as a children's toy and as a performance tool in juggling and sometimes in Chinese ethnic dance. It is possible to perform a large variety of tricks with the Chinese yo-yo including throwing the yo-yo up into the air or tossing it around the user's back.

## Bollywood Dance

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The dancing in Bollywood films, especially older ones, is primarily modeled on traditional Indian dance. In modern films, Indian dance elements often blend with Western dance styles. The hero or heroine will often perform with a troupe of supporting dancers.

In modern films, Indian dance elements often blend with Western dance styles (as seen on MTV or in Broadway musicals), though it is not unusual to see Western pop *and* pure classical dance numbers side by side in the same film.

## The Cultural Society of Valley Stream South H.S. presents

## World Cultural Dances



**Schneider Children's Hospital  
November 3rd, 2009**

## Bachata

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Bachata accompanies the music of the same name with its origins in the Republic. The dance is a four-step beat achieved with a walking Cuban hip motion, and a unique “pop”. Similar to Merengue, dips are not original to the dance and turns are done infrequently. The male leads the female with subtle communication using pushing and pulling on the hands to guide the direction in which to move or to hint on upcoming turns.

## Mexican Hat Dance

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The Mexican Hat Dance is a folkdance from the Jalisco region, and is known for its vibrant colors in attire. Its choreography requires multiple couples with synchronized movement. The female costume is basically composed of a long, colorful, flowing skirt that is incorporated into the dance itself.

## Chinese Ribbon

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Chinese Ribbon dance emerged during the Tang Dynasty because the emperor once dreamed of a palace where he was surrounded by beautiful dancing fairies in colorful flowing robes. The emperor eventually demanded a dance with spectacular displays of long silk ribbons to make his dream come alive. The traditional Chinese ribbon dance, once performed only for royalty, is now popular among all audiences for its grace and beauty.



## Swing Dance

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Swing dance commonly refers to a group of dances that developed concurrently with the swing style of jazz music. The best known of these dances is the Lindy Hop, a popular partner dance that originated in Harlem and is still danced today.

The earliest forms of swing dance, such as the Black Bottom, Charleston and tap dance, are associated with Dixieland jazz, which developed in New Orleans. These sorts of dances traveled north with jazz to cities like New York, Kansas City, and Chicago during the era of the Great Migration, that began in the 1920's.

## Chinese Lion Dance

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The art of Chinese Lion Dance goes back some one thousand years. The lions represent joy and happiness. From the fourth day to the fifteenth of the Lunar New Year, lion dance groups would tour from village to village in traditional China. Both lions and dragons figure in New Year's Parades and other celebrations throughout the year.

The Lion Dance also plays an important role in the consecration of temples and other buildings, at business openings, planting and harvest times, official celebrations, and religious rites.

